

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/721,863	BOTTOU ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Wenpeng Chen	2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to amendmwnt filed on 7/13/2006.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 15-16, 20-27, and 29-31 (now renumbered as 1-13, respectively).
3.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*
  - c)  None
  1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

#### Attachment(s)

1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2.  Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

*Wenpeng Chen*  
 Wenpeng Chen  
 Primary Examiner  
 Art Unit: 2624  
 8/24/06

***Examiner's Amendment/Statement***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas M. Isaacson on 8/23/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

**In claims**

-- Replace Claim 20 with the following:

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) A method for coding a data signal representing partially-masked image data, comprising:

generating coefficients representing spatial area of the image data,  
canceling coefficients of masked image data;  
reconstructing image data based on coefficients of non-masked image data,  
for any portion of the reconstructed image data that lies outside of the mask,  
substituting the original image data therefor, repeating the generating, canceling,  
reconstructing and substituting steps at least once unless convergence is reached, and  
outputting coded image data based on the convergence.

***Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance***

2. Claims 1-14, 17-19, and 28 are canceled by the applicants.
3. Claims 15-16, 20-27, and 29-31 (now renumbered as 1-13, respectively) are allowed.

The examiner's statement of reasons for allowance for Claims 15-16 and 20-27 has already been given in Office Action paper #20060410 mailed on 4/13/2006.

The newly added Claims 29-31 correspond to Claims 20, 23, and 21, respectively and therefore are allowed with the same reason given in paper #20060410.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

***Conclusion***

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Wengpeng Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7431. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Bella can be reached on 571-272-7778. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 571-273-8300 for regular

communications and 571-273-8300 for After Final communications. TC 2600's customer service number is 571-272-2600.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

Wenpeng Chen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2624

August 24, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wenpeng Chen".